

PUBLIC LAW 104-191-AUG. 21, 1996 110 STAT.  
1953

single participant or beneficiary, shall be treated as a  
separate violation."

(3) COORDINATION.—Section 506 of such Act  
(29 U.S.C. 1136) is amended by adding at the end the  
following new subsection:

"(c) COORDINATION OF ENFORCEMENT WITH STATES  
WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN ARRANGEMENTS.—A State may  
enter into an agreement with the Secretary for delegation to  
the State of some or all of the Secretary's authority under  
sections 502 and 504 to enforce the requirements under part 7 in  
connection with multiple employer welfare arrangements, providing  
medical care (within the meaning of section 706(a)(2)) which are  
not group health plans."

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 514(b) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1144(b)) is  
amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(9) For additional provisions relating to group health  
plans, see section 704."

(2)(A) Part 6 of subtitle B of title I of such Act

(29 U.S.C. 1161 et seq.) is amended by striking the heading  
and inserting the following:

"PART 6—CONTINUATION COVERAGE AND ADDITIONAL STANDARDS  
FOR GROUP HEALTH PLANS".

(B) The table of contents in section 1 of such Act  
is amended by striking the item relating to the heading for  
part 6 of subtitle B of title I and inserting the following:

"PART 6—CONTINUATION COVERAGE AND ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR GROUP  
HEALTH PLANS".

(3) The table of contents in section 1 of such  
Act (as amended by the preceding provisions of this  
section) is amended by inserting after the items relating to part 6  
the following new items:

"PART 7—GROUP HEALTH PLAN PORTABILITY, ACCESS, AND RENEWABILITY  
REQUIREMENTS

"Sec. 701. Increased portability through limitation on preexisting  
conditions exclusions

"Sec. 702. Prohibiting discrimination against individual  
participants and beneficiaries based on health status

"Sec. 703. Guaranteed renewability in multiemployer plans and  
multiple employer welfare arrangements.

"Sec. 704. Preemption; State flexibility; construction

"Sec. 705. Special rules relating to group health plans.

"Sec. 706. Definitions

"Sec. 707. Regulations."

(g)

EFFECTIVE

DATES.—

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(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this section, this  
section (and the amendments made by this section) shall apply  
with respect to group health plans for plan years beginning  
after June 30 1997

(2) DETERMINATION OF CREDITABLE COVERAGE.—

(A) PERIOD OF COVERAGE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii),  
no period  
before July 1, 1996, shall be taken into  
account under  
part 7 of subtitle B of title I of the  
Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (as  
added by this section) in determining creditable coverage.